

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-11 and 17-20 are pending. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks.

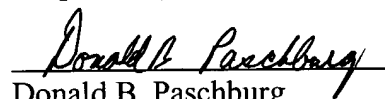
Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1, 4-6, 8-11 and 17-20 would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claims.

Claims 12, 14 and 16 have been cancelled. Only allowed claims are currently pending.

For the forgoing reasons, the present application, including claims 1, 4-6, 8-11 and 17-20, is believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner's early and favorable action is respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Donald B. Paschburg
Reg. No. 33,753
Attorney for Applicants

SIEMENS CORPORATION
Intellectual Property Department
5th Floor
170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830
(732) 321-3191
(732) 321-3030 (FAX)